



Brownfields Job Training and Development Demonstration Pilot

National Association of Black Environmentalists, Denver, CO

Outreach and Special Projects Staff (5105)

Quick Reference Fact Sheet

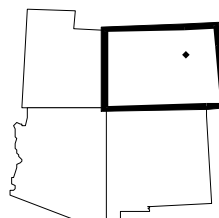
EPA's Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative is designed to empower states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield is a site, or portion thereof, that has actual or perceived contamination and an active potential for redevelopment or reuse. EPA is funding: assessment demonstration pilot programs (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years), to assess brownfields sites and to test cleanup and redevelopment models; job training pilot programs (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years), to provide training for residents of communities affected by brownfields to facilitate cleanup of brownfields sites and prepare trainees for future employment in the environmental field; and, cleanup revolving loan fund programs (each funded up to \$500,000 over five years) to capitalize loan funds to make loans for the environmental cleanup of brownfields. These pilot programs are intended to provide EPA, states, tribes, municipalities, and communities with useful information and strategies as they continue to seek new methods to promote a unified approach to site assessment, environmental cleanup, and redevelopment.

BACKGROUND

EPA has selected the National Association of Black Environmentalists for a Brownfields Job Training and Development Demonstration Pilot. The National Association of Black Environmentalists' assessment pilot partner is the Sand Creek Corridor Assessment Pilot, which encompasses the City and County of Denver and Commerce City. The Job Training Pilot will focus on six disadvantaged, primarily minority communities in northeast Denver. Five of the six targeted communities are within a federally designated Enterprise Community (total population over 100,000). Poverty rates within the six communities range from 27-50 percent.

The federal Enterprise Community has a history of mixed residential and heavy industrial use. Many facilities have been abandoned, but multiple heavy generators that produce noxious odors and soot are still operating. There are 22 CERCLIS and heavy generator sites that lie within a four-square mile area within one of the target communities. A former NPL national hazardous materials disposal site also lies in the target area, and there are numerous waste disposal areas. Training is needed to provide good jobs to local residents in the assessment and cleanup of the many brownfields in this economically depressed area.

PILOT SNAPSHOT



Denver, Colorado

Date of Announcement:
May 2000

Amount: \$200,000

Profile: The Pilot will train 100 participants as environmental technicians. Students will be recruited from among the minority and disadvantaged residents of six northeast Denver communities, which suffer from a legacy of mixed residential and heavy industrial land use that has left many abandoned, potentially heavily contaminated properties in close proximity to neighborhood households.

Contacts:

National Association of Black
Environmentalists

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Visit the EPA Region 8 Brownfields web site at:
http://www.epa.gov/region08/land_waste/bfhome/bfhome.html

For further information, including specific Pilot contacts, additional Pilot information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at:
<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/>

TRAINING OBJECTIVES

The National Association of Black Environmentalists plans to train 100 participants, achieve a 75 percent placement rate, and support career placement of graduates for up to five years after the training is completed. Participants will be recruited from among the minority and disadvantaged residents of the six target communities in northeast Denver. The Pilot training program will consist of the 40-hour OSHA health and safety course, heavy metals and asbestos abatement, hazardous organic materials management, pollution and waste minimization, chemistry of hazardous materials, site assessment for property transfer, hazard communication, and industrial spill response, including training in the use of innovative assessment and cleanup technologies.

The National Association of Black Environmentalists' training efforts will be supported by organizations such as the Mayor's Office of Employment and Training, Front Range Community College, University of Colorado, Colorado School of Mines, Urban League of Metropolitan Denver, Northeast Park Hill Environmental Oversight Board, and several local environmental engineering firms. Advanced college training is available for selected students who will be qualified to lead crews of technicians. Outreach activities will be coordinated with three community groups that have extensive experience with environmental justice issues and contamination in the target area.

ACTIVITIES

Activities planned as part of this Pilot include:

- Conducting outreach to recruit minority and disadvantaged residents of six target communities in northeast Denver;
- Conducting brownfields technician training, including courses in the use of innovative assessment and cleanup technologies; and
- Supporting career placement of students for up to five years after the job training is completed.

The cooperative agreement for this Pilot has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.